

The Summer Bell

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For the Seminary Bell.

MY MOTHER'S GRAVE.

BY M. L.

There is a spot—a quiet spot,
The wanderer longs to see,
When wandering far in distant lands,
Or on the bounding sea;
Its name is home—a soothing sound,
To the weary yearning heart,
For the pulses thrill to the gentle tone,
And the tears unbidden start.
But there's a nook to me more dear
Than e'en the vine clad cot;
'Tis a quiet place in a far off land,
Where the stranger sees it not;
The cedars guard in the winter's storm,
And there will the cypress wave,
When the Summer's beam awakes the rose
Of love on My Mother's Grave.
I sometimes long for the loved of home,
But not as I yearn for thee;
And oft I muse on its fond joys,
And of my old time glee;
But oftener still my memory turns
To the valley's deepening shade,
And my heart will speak of the lowly mound
In which the loved was laid.
I want again to sit me down
Beside thy grassy mound,
And listen to the whispering wind,
And to its warning sound;
For 'tis whispering as it passes,
"The path to heaven is at last."
I would not go to weep there
By the path-way often trod,
But that my soul again might feel
So close to heaven and God.
As it hath done, when there I've mused
On the Angels robed in white,
And felt that we again should meet
In the Resurrection light.
I feel the shackles of the world to be
All loosed, I'm at rest,
When thus I can commune with God,
And know that thou art blest;
The place is hallowed by thy scenes,
'Tis free from earth born care
And a radiant Angel shall arise,
Where My Mother's Grave was here.

BROTHER IN HEAVEN.

BY M. L. S.

Oh! come to me my Angel brother,
Lay thy gentle hand in mine;
Speak not of my grief and sorrow;
Speak of joys which now are thine;
Tell me of thy home celestial
Floating in yon radiant sky;
Tell me, too, if I shall meet thee
When on earth no more I sigh.
Oh! speak to me of guileless hours,
And that time which flew so fast
When in our happy hours we parted.
Ah! who knew it was the last?
Alas! that hope should so deceive us,
Through the future's opening fair,
Thou hadst thought to win the laurels,
And in thy nation's glories share.
I see a wreath is slowly twining
Round thy fair and open brow.
Tell me, brother of thy glory,
Placed there by whom, and how.
Oh! I know great joy thou hast tasted,
For thy face is radiant bright,
And all around thy presence non
There shines a glorious light.
Nay! flee not from me, Angel brother;
I would now thy glories see;
I would taste thy sweetest joy.
Oh! may they one day be for me,
But I never more will mourn thee,
For I have seen thy glories shine,
And I have seen thy own bright home
Reflected here in mine.
Now pass gently to that fair land
I'll not stay thy spirit here,
Though thy presence is so precious,
And thy angel's voice so dear.
Oh! a sister's love is ever true,
When sorrow round it twines,
Like the polar star at midnight
With the greatest luster shines.

I have a favorite haunt in Maple-Wood
and thither I often turn my footsteps,
when weary of the care and frivolity of
life; and when as oft I do, I feel in con-
templative mood, I had a friend once
that I loved not as others; and here we
of't sat and mused or talked together.—
Those were happy days. I love to revert
to them; and this spot has been the
scene of many joys. I love to visit it.—
She was so gentle and amiable that all
greeted her with pleasure, all felt better
and happier for her presence; but they
did not love her as I did: they admired
her mildness, commended her character
and loveliness, as a casual observer does
the color, richness and fragrance of the
rose; but I esteemed her as a botanist
does some rare and beautiful flower.—
I could appreciate those deeper and
more lasting excellences, that the world
did not know existed, and had learned to
respect more than visible qualities, that
called forth the admiration of all who
knew her. She loved every body, too,
and always had a pleasant smile and en-
couraging word for the little ones of the
village, and was ever ready with encour-
aging gentle tone and helping hand to
aid the old and suffering. Oh! many a
prayer was prayed for her happiness, and
many a blessing was whispered as she
passed by. But she was not beautiful; to
strangers she was only a whole-souled
ergent woman, just what great many more
would persevere in what they feel to be
the right and their honest duty. I do not
know that she was ever beautiful, she
been, but when I first learned to love
her, the blushing hours of girlhood; had
long since fled, and the calmer years of
maturity had left a trace or two of their
flight in the pale cheek and intellectual
forehead.

But it was for noble character, and
warm hearted, active benevolence that
she was so kindly welcomed to every
hearthstone in Mapleville. But I learned
from her own lips, the history of her early
life, as one eve we talked together out
in this familiar retreat; it endeared the
spot to me, and taught me a lesson of se-
vere but successful life struggles, that the
world never knew were waged or won.

Born in affluence, her youth passed
rapidly by; everything was golden as a
dream. Being constantly caressed and
flattered by friends, and fawned upon by
those who feared to be her rivals, she
grew, as too many in similar situations
do, haughty, vain and selfish; she was
impatient at the least opposition offered
to her plans and arrangements and seem-
ed to forget altogether the patience and
forbearance done to others. Thus every
thing was obtained for her that her in-
dulgent but injudicious father imagined
might contribute to her pleasure or
amuse her capricious fancy. But a re-
verse took place. Time began to grow
dull and lag while Gold was taking wings
and flying swiftly. Life is a wheel and
the spoke that now stands over all, by a
single revolution will be the lowest of
the number. By a sudden and unlooked
for reaction, such as sometimes occur in
the commercial world, her father lost all
his possessions; and the vital spark, al-
ready beginning to burn dimly was extin-
guished by this sudden and violent blast
of adversity. Being thus unexpectedly
deprived of all support, she dropped for
a time, as a vine will, which clinging to
the oak is crushed and mangled by its
fall; but as this will sometimes rise from
from the earth more luxuriant in growth
and beauty.—so she, gaining from the
fall, a new impetus to action in an oppo-

site direction, reached a far more eleva-
ed standard of excellence. But ere this
she struggled bitterly with poverty and
labored hard for bread sufficient to sup-
port life; and soon how careworn be-
came the joyous face, and dimmed the
laughing eye. "Oh! it all seemed very
hard to me," she said, "all the toil, the
care, the cruel slights of my former ac-
quaintances, and the many inconveni-
ences the destitute have to suffer; yet
these were not to be compared to my an-
guish of soul, they were as feathers in the
balance against lead to what I endured
on account of my wayward and unsubst-
ituted will, my vain and rebellious nature.—
It requires more than human strength to
subdue the heart; but other aid was
sought and given," and tears welled up
in the dark eyes—tears of remembrance,
and of love to Him who giveth the victo-
ry. "But you have conquered now," I
whispered, caressing her head closely
against me. "No, not yet," she answer-
ed firmly but cheerfully, "not yet, not
until death is swallowed up in victory.—
my heart is still rebellious now, and my
will is not so perfect in obedience as it
should be, I am still—" "but surely," in-
terrupted I, "you cannot expect to be per-
fect in thought as well as action." "I am
not perfect in action," she replied, "nor
do I require of myself more than my Ma-
ker does of me and His demands are per-
fectly reasonable. We are expressly ur-
ged to use our imaginations
and every high thing that exalteth itself
against the knowledge of God, and bring-
ing into captivity every thought to the
obedience of Christ." This I have ear-
nestly striven to do, and now though I
feel a great deal of evil has been subdued
within me, yet I claim not the victory.—
I desired and prayed earnestly, but it was
the power of God working within me to
will and to do His good pleasure, it was
His grace that gave me strength, my own
is perfect weakness." And thus she talk-
ed to me of the duties, the responsibili-
ties, and the trials of the christian's life,
and of the sweet and perfect peace flow-
ing from the relationship of Father and
child in the divine life.

"But there is one thing more she add-
ed earnestly after a pause, that christians
are oft times too negligent and forgetful
of—the precept to "avoid all appearance
of evil." Oh! if we could only each one
of us realize the immense influence for
good or evil we exert over our compan-
ions, how often when we meet together
would the trifling conversation we indulge
in, be supplanted by something benefi-
cial to the mind, tending to the spiritual
advancement and promotive of the honor
of God. "You will not understand me
to mean by this," she continued, "that
constant cant that is sometimes indulged
in; there is such a thing as misusing
pearls; they are too precious to be cast
carelessly to the world, for they can not
appreciate them, their beauty nor value.
For the pearl of great price is spiritually
discerned. But let me again urge you to
be careful of your influence, you can be
thoughtful without gloominess, cheerful
and genial, without yielding to silliness.
Remember how great a matter a little
fire kindleth. Call to mind poor Helen
Lenis, you know how one trifling jest
lightly spoken, so completely routed all
serious thought and feeling as she never
again cared for the carriages of the spirit,
and of the deep remorse her unthinking
companion afterward endured on this
account. And the dawning of eternity
alone will reveal how many evils have
thus resulted from misdirected influence;

and also how brilliant good words fitly
spoken will shine as apples of gold in
pitchers of silver.

It may be my work is nearer finished
than yours; it surely would be, did it
depend on length of days, but the spring
time of youth is of't the season of decay.
'Tis well we do not know the day nor
hour. But I begin to realize now how
often

"Over the river they beckoned to me
Loved ones that have crossed to the other side."

But for you I do feel so much solici-
tude; I want you to be a christian in hope
and practice as well as profession; work
diligently while it is called to-day, but be
very careful not to place any depend-
ence on works for salvation, yield your-
self wholly to Christ, trusting Him alone
for pardon and acceptance; learn to scru-
tinize the motives from which you act, and
frequently compare your own conduct
and heart prayerfully with the most spiri-
tual and practical parts of God's word.—
"Look," said she, pointing to a window
in the distant village, "at a simile of a
righteous life. As the sun when reflect-
ed on glass, gives not only brightness,
but its own peculiar hue; so the true
christian displays not merely a moral ex-
cellence, but every action is marked with
the coloring and spirit of Christ."

Do you marvel that I loved her for her
gentle admonitions, and respected and
looked with admiration on her earnest,
persevering and successful conflicts with
satan, for in right we should respect
are the truly glorious
of fame, strew garlands of renown in the
pathway of the conqueror of nation, give
homage and pealing anthems of joy, as
the victorious over comes returns in tri-
umph; and shall we not rather reverence
her who contended, not with thousands
aiding, with plumes and banners waving
victoriously, and martial bands pouring
forth peals of inspiring music, but in hu-
mility, in earnest and sincere supplica-
tion. "Give love and esteem to such as
strive and conquer thus, for it is written,
"He that ruleth his spirit is better than
he that taketh a city."

For the Seminary Bell.

BY WORDS.

How many there are who are in the
habit of using "by-words," and how very
very foolish is the practice. Yet, we will
hardly find one person out of ten, who
does not use them more or less; and if
we could only realize how worse than
useless is this habit, and to what it will
lead, if indulged in to any great extent
we would relinquish the practice at once.

Many a one who is in the habit of using
"by-words" would shudder at the thought
of swearing; yet, in truth, this is a small
beginning, which is very apt to lead to
the pernicious practice of using profane
language. You may think this is taking
rather a solemn view of a very common
practice, and one which is thought light-
ly of by a great many; but it is neverthe-
less a true one, and we would all do well
to abide by it. E. S. T.

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E. A. WOOD SUMNER, Prin.
C. M. GREGORY, Editor.

THE SEMINARY BELL.

MT. CARROLL SEMINARY,
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EDITORIAL.

If we trace back the history of the human race as far as either sacred or profane writing will give us light, we see that mankind have been divided into two classes. In one, we find the larger portion gliding along on their march to the common receptacle, while a few are lifted above and move in a wider and more extended circle, ruling and influencing the destiny of their fellow-beings. This number has been, and always will be, very small when compared with the overwhelming multitude which make up the human family. But, if it were possible to collect together in one roll the names of all those who, since the creation of the Universe, have stood in this rank, such a catalogue would be formed that it would be out of the question even to try to conceive its extent. Many prominent characters existed in the earliest date of the world's foundation, who have performed actions which would vie with the most famous of any age, but are unknown to fame and lost in the oblivion which has sunk upon that dark era. But, as we descend to later times, tradition, monuments, and writings have handed "down to posterity" their exploits, and it is possible now to obtain a knowledge of them, although exaggerated beyond measure. But when we compare the great of all ages, their power, ability, means of doing good, and the use they make of these means, we would find but few, who are now deemed as standing at the head of this illustrious band really deserving of the honor. Many kings and nobles have been looked up to and counted great by the world,—around whom have circled a myriad of satellites who have given instead of borrowed light, who have now sunk into night, and whose rising and setting were never noticed; or when they had reached the zenith and shone in their meridian glory, they were deemed as pale and twinkling stars, whose light glimmered from afar, overpowered by a near and bright Sun. But if this sun had been shorn of his borrowed splendor, he would never have attracted the gaze even of the benighted wanderer, who guides his lonely course by some star, but would have let in darkness as he has risen, with his whole orbit unmarked and untraced.

Riches can not make a man great. It may be an useful aid to him in making the necessary preparation, laying the foundation upon which he is to build the mighty structure. It may shorten the road, and make it much more easy of access, by removing from the path many obstacles which otherwise would have to be surmounted. It may bring advantages, the want of which would be keenly felt through all the concerns of life, and which can not be obtained only under its auspices;—but it can never raise him above others and make him known and honored abroad.

Its influence may be great. Man, throughout all ages, has been ready to fall down and worship; but this worship has been given to the God, and not the mortal. The possessor may be looked up to by

those around him; his name may be mentioned with the greatest respect; office and power may be placed in his hands without limit: yet he is not honored for those noble and intrinsic qualities which make the good man, nor for those commanding faculties which constitute the great man. No real internal worth has he to attract, no genuine nobility of soul to retain the love of his countrymen; but to an external adornment is he indebted for his position. The poor, who are dependent upon him, the ignorant, who can not discern between merit and the glitter of pomp, compose the train of his admirers and followers. With these around him, he may for a time shine, but like the moon, he soon runs through the different phases of glories orbit,—and then wanes until he is totally lost from its firmament.

Many a man has depended entirely upon wealth, and neglected to make use of the right means, with the idea that he had in his hands that which would bring his distinction. Yea!—many a noble mind has been left uncultivated, many a talent has been hidden deep in the earth, which, had the proper means been taken, would have marked out a glorious track, been bright lights in the field of science and art, and looked upon as benefactors of the human race. But, with this mistaken notion in their heads, they have allowed the immortal mind to remain a barren desert, or full of noxious weeds, that priceless talent he concealed amid the rubbish and ruin of a neglected tower. They have been satisfied to grovel amid the mazes of ignorance, and wander on through its dark and unknown wilderness. They have rested, contented to pass away their lives amid scenes of pleasure and revelry, where the soul sickens, and the heart grows weary and longs for something higher, better; and, when they depart they are forgotten nearly as soon as the last clod of earth is placed over their remains. Why should they not be? Does not that which gave them position yet remain, to claim the tribute of loving hearts and smiling friends? It encircles the brows of another, bears with it the worship of its votaries, and crowns him with its attendant honors.

There was a time when family connection had a mighty power toward advancing a member to position and honor, when no other qualification seemed to be deserved; whether prepared to fill the place or not, it made but little difference. The house from which he descended, is honorable, and too powerful to be refused the slight request, or it is necessary to propitiate and attach them to the ruling power. In fact, all the honors and offices were bestowed for the purpose of making friends and supporters, and to secure the service of the wealthy and powerful. The nobles, having a great influence over the common people, were the persons who obtained these emoluments without regard to worth. Have family and friends as yet lost their influence, or can we see them still exercising a magic power over the human mind? Many centuries will pass away before honest merit, shorn of all external adornment, will be regarded in its proper light, and rewarded wherever found.

Party has often given a man a position above his competitors who, had it not been for such an aid, would have remained in his true place, which he might have filled with honor to himself and profit to his country. But mounted upon the back of the blind horse, he was borne to the goal a victor in the race, not from any equestrian superiority, but by "the good points of his steed;" and amid the buzzes of the people and the rejoicings of the interested, he is crowned with the wreath of victory, and receives the stake for which he has so successfully striven.

Not only in the political world can this influence be seen and felt, but also in a more private sphere. A young man, after having prepared himself to enter the scenes of active life, may, through influential friends, receive a start which, if he is capable of taking advantage and improving, may aid him materially; will save him a long and wearisome struggle. He may be placed, by its means, in a situation which he could only reach after a long lapse of time, and a course of honest action and meritorious conduct if he had no one from whom he could derive assistance. But by the recommendations of friends and their testimony in reference to his qualifications he is lifted over all the stumbling blocks which stand in the way to impede his progress without the trouble of removing them. Without any exertion, he occupies a step in the ladder of fame a few degrees removed from the bottom, whence he may safely climb upward with no danger of his being pulled backward by the multitude, who are gazing wishfully from beneath. He is beyond their reach, above them; and it depends upon himself whether he will continue his course or slide gradually down the ladder, round by round, till caught by those below, he is landed upon the ground among them. He must go on, or fall back; for it is impossible to retain a permanent position, as he would block up the way so that the others could not pass. If he is not prepared to cling on, or does not labor hard to retain his grasp, inch by inch his hands slip, or, from a broken round, he descends head foremost among the crowd of eager aspirants below, whence no power of friends can ever extract him; but,—among the abandon and despairing of that herd, he will ever remain. But one, who commences at the foot and by herculean labor lifts himself,—first, the head, then, the shoulders,—above his fellows, with his progress made slow by their efforts to retain him among them till he has eluded their unyielding grasp, will climb up without hesitation and unflinchingly, until he has almost lost sight of those with whom he was once on the same level. He has obtained an experience which, united with continued exertion, upholds him. Every step is a preparatory course for the next, and qualifies him to journey on without halting over a moment; while he momentum which he acquires, carries him over every deficient round through which many careless climbers have fallen.—He may reach a point where those below seem but shadow phantoms, and the swampy foundation from which he started, appears like a small gentle lake, dim from its distance; but how-

ever high he ascends, he can never arrive at the spot where he can catch a glimpse of the upper extremity. It seems to extend upward into the vague immensity beyond, without limit, reaching to the throne of Jehovah Himself. Could he view the end and see that it had nothing upon which to rest, but was liable to fall at any moment and crush the climbers, he would turn pale, hesitate, give over his eager aspirations, and satisfied descend to a safe position. However far he mounts, he always beholds the marks of some one who has journeyed beyond him, where some one has grown dizzy from looking downward, faltered, and fallen.—These traces will always be found.—They are fresh as when first made;—they can never be erased. Tombs mark the ascent where the ambitious have lain down, overtaken by the 'Arch Enemy' of mankind. No! one must not depend upon any outward circumstance to make him great. He must hew his way through the intervening rocks by his own individual exertion, nothing can perform this service for him. He has been endowed with faculties by his Creator, which are capable of almost any amount of cultivation, and require this cultivation before they will render him the service necessary to the fulfilment of his ambitious views. It is not the work of a moment but years are requisite; years of hard laborous study. How the means is acquired by which this study is carried on, is of no great importance; it has to be performed. Whether inherited from ancestors, given freely by kind parents, or earned by previous toil, the expending it will not help him one iota. If it could be bought and sold like other human possessions, then indeed would it be well for man to trust implicitly to the assurance of the golden god. But no! it cannot be. It would lose its priceless value; it would become stained by the dross corrupted by the contact. The desire for it, would be gone. Its power over the soul would depart; for a more powerful and mighty deity would usurp its throne, and reign with sovereign authority. It has to be obtained through a different channel, sought at a different shrine, and purchased with a different price. There is something necessary beyond the expenditure of gold, the expenditure of labor, that heaven-descended boon. Exertion is the mainspring, the lever which puts and keeps in motion the mighty machinery. The works of a watch, so beautifully made, and fitted together so nicely that we can not but admire the skill of the hand which formed its parts, are useless until the mainspring is applied. The various parts have a share to perform in the general movement, but they would not accomplish it unaided. They would stand motionless, waiting for some moving power to make them execute their design;—and if this as never applied, these minute wheels will never make a single turn, nor will the hands upon the face indicate the active power below.—The human mind is similar. Its faculties have been shaped by the hand of its Giver, and each is so framed as to act an important part in the great design of life and thought. If they remain uncultivated, they will be passive, not be able to generate power so

WHAT the DOCTOR WRITES before BEDTIME, OR, LITTLE THOUGHTS.

"These times is hard for Doctors." This remark I heard the other day from a long-legged, thin-faced countryman, as, I was passing up fourth street in post haste, to see one of my patients, who was in a serious state of illness.—He did not know that I heard him, nor do I presume he would have cared, if he had; since I was a stranger to him, so I passed on as fast as my walking sticks would vibrate, but in spite of my haste and a score of other perplexities then upon my mind, I could not avoid his remark having an indelible effect upon my sensitive nature. Verily, thought I, these is hard times for Doctors. I expect the countryman had the idea of poverty stricken physicians running at this and that ones call, and receiving for compensation the very convenient story of "hard times;" but I applied it to myself with a different meaning. I was on my way to see a wrestle between body and soul, dust and spirit, the mortal with the immortal. Ay, more; going to join sides with a thing of earth and strive to fetter that, which was bound for another world. I well knew that my presence could not call or threaten back the unseen prisoner, who yet lingered upon his threshold of clay. The chains that had bound him were now broken and death already was unbaring the door to set the captive free. We all know that at such a crisis, the powers of earth are unavailing in alluring the spirit to remain one moment beyond the time of its calling. Yethow trifling and fickle is the human reason when weighed in the scales with heart-pangs and sad sobs in the face of the destroyer! A bitter moment to all is that which hangs upon the margin of eternity!

"O God it is a fearful thing
To see a human soul take wing
In any shape, in any way."

But who knows the secret thoughts of him who day after day is a witness of these scenes? Hope, that silent comforter to the friend of the dying; which, but a few days ago, shed its healing rays to every afflicted and saddened heart, has now waned and lives in little sparks, which human skill is called to fan—to fan in vain. This was the office I had to perform the day I heard the countryman's remark. I entered the house—the room, silent save with sobs, and approached the dying bedside. A grief stricken mother in secret prayer, bent in solemn attitude over the cherished one which was so soon to bid adieu to time's uncertain scenes and live in a world eternal! A kind father with fixed and unmoved features, sat watching Death, as he wiped out with his white finger the blush of health from cheeks, yet soft and full of youth; and fond brothers and sisters shut from their sights the awful scene and bathed their eyes in bitter tears. I administered to the helpless form the last resorts, told the sad tale of departing life, and saw the sparks of hope struck out from the living, and the spirit flown from the death.

These are doctor's hard times. They make life a tragic scene and mingle with our happy thoughts, sad reflections, which so heavily weigh upon the mind that they bear it down under their weary weights and augment our sorrows.

What a wonderful creation is that which elevates man above the animal! I have often thought how quietly the beasts pass time, and what a blank life must be to them. They must live very happily or not live at all, that is not appreciate living; and who can tell which is the worse, to have the storms of sorrow anon broken by joys' sunshine, beat in maddened rage, and not be able to understand them, or understanding them, lay the heart open to their full power?

The lioness fights desperately to save her young "king of beasts," but when he has been captured, mourns only, while the force of habit tells her he is gone. She loved him from instinct, though not from this alone;—association had daily revealed to her his new attractions and as often won her deeper affection. She could but admire him as he learned to jump and play over her body, and strike his paws on her back and sides as she basked in the sun; but as soon as other things filled up this space of idle time, then she forgot him, and her sorrow (pardon the expression) fled.

Not so with creatures like ourselves, who carry somewhere within us—God's image—the something we call mind. Our sorrows follow us to the grave, except they are smothered with joys; and I might say eternally, but for that all-wise plan in which our Sovereign King wipes them out through his "amazing grace."

We are children of sorrow; but it may be a question in the mind of many, whether we, thus existing, are obliged to be sorrowful? If the world has become a "Despond," and we have got to ford the bitter lake, sometime in our journey of three score and ten years, then truly; life

"Of saddy joys comprised
Is falsely named, and no such thing,
But rather death disguised."

But it cannot be, that the author of things designed our unhappiness on earth, in the beginning. He has permitted it, but we have created it for ourselves. And cannot we withhold the match from the tinder, when we know the flame will be to our discomfort?

I must stop this kind of reasoning at once, or I shall have to turn this night's writing into a theological essay. There are many things that necessarily would come in,—our sinful natures, the evil spirit, worldly temptation &c.,—that inevitably cause us sorrow, either sooner or later, but much of this doubtless we can avoid. And here let me, say that the limit of our avoiding sorrow is not easily reached. Sorrow being a result of sin; avoiding the cause avoids the effect, and no one arrives at that period in life when he cannot lessen his transgressions. The fact is, if our governing purposes were right, we should have little to trouble us in our "mortal rounds" and less to fear hereafter.

(To be concluded)

WEBSTER'S PICTORIAL DICTIONARY IN SOUTH AMERICA.—The Merriams have just received and application from the "director of the collegiate institution at Nova Friburgo," Rio Janeiro, for twenty sets of their "Pictorial illustrations only." The professor says, "They would be useful to me in some of the classes of the sciences." The illustrations are never sold separately from the body of the work, but this application indicates a high appreciation of their beauty and utility. —Springfield Republican.

The Nobility and Responsibility of the Teacher's Vocation.

There are but few teachers that fully comprehend the responsible station they occupy. Place an individual in almost any other position, especially if money be intrusted to him, and he will realize that if he betrays his trust a heinous crime has been committed for which, loss of character will alone pay the penalty. But the teacher, who has the immortal soul to mould aright, accepts the office, some of them, never having entertained the idea that they were in any degree responsible for the child's future course through life.

Can they have a more precious charge committed to their keeping than the training of some innocent and guileless mind for time and eternity? Can one do a higher, nobler deed, than lead another fellow-being who is comparatively helpless, to grasp truths that in after life shall stand forth like beacon lights, whose beams will incite others to still higher and holier aspirations! A teachers vocation being thus responsible, can it be less than noble?

On the education of our youth depends the nobility of our men and women. As knowledge is power and the state of society rests upon the influence that is exerted by its members, how necessary that each should have such knowledge imparted to him as will prepare him for the most elevated station in life.

As the mental and moral training depends upon the teacher he should be well qualified. This qualification does not consist merely in acquirements from books; they must have tact to impart what they know, and the power to lead the child to see how much there is to be learned by study and perseverance. They must have a love for the children that are under their care; they must love their vocation, have their whole souls in the work, if they would interest the pupils. If teachers do not have these qualifications they cannot hope to be eminently successful.

All teachers should study how they could best promote the interests of their scholars. This may be done in various ways, but perhaps there is no better method than giving them examples of those that have been the best and noblest of mankind in all nations and ages; thus carefully instilling in their minds the idea that they by close application and earnest endeavors may one day stand as high in the scale of human grandeur as their models.—At other times excite a desire to explore the mysteries which surround them on every side; teach them to admire the beauties of nature, from the springing grass and tiny wild flowers at their feet, to the majestic trees of the forest, thus onward and upward lead them step by step until they have climbed the starry heights and stand amid the planets that will revolve as long as time shall last.

But while the teacher is thus enlarging the child's mind and preparing it to grasp and grapple with truths that shall go with him through life is he not in a measure responsible for the bodily health of those intrusted to his care? The casket should be worthy of the jewel enshrined therein. But how often is it the case that the physical constitution of those whose intellect is

capable of grasping the greatest difficulties is so enfeebled by disease brought on by over exertion, that it makes them early fit subject for death to lay his chilling hand upon.

"Brightest flowers soonest fade," but is it necessary that this saying should be used in reference to children so frequently? Would the "silver cord be loosed or the golden bowl broken" as early in life if teachers were more careful of those intrusted to their care?

The most precious are generally urged forward at a more rapid pace than their bodily health allows, while the duller ones, as they are termed,—are allowed to breathe the pure, fresh air, play all sorts of rough, rude games greatly to the detriment of clean dresses and new jackets. Now if those enjoy the fresh air and bodily exercise are generally blessed with better health than others, may not observant teachers draw a practical lesson from this knowledge, and hereafter watch more carefully over the physical wants of the children over whom they have charge.

Decision of Character.

Time has often been compared to a stream which is ever flowing onward to its termination—the ocean of eternity; and life has been compared to a bark sailing on this stream.

That a vessel may successfully meet adverse winds, obstructions of various kinds and continue sailing in its proper course, it is necessary that every sail be hoisted and every officer, especially the helmsman, be at his post; so with this bark that is sailing on the stream of time, if we would not have it left to the mercy of the winds and waves, to toss about in every direction and finally to be wrecked; if we would have it safely sail into its destined haven, we must have its sails all unfurled to the gale that shall waft it onward, and the helmsman must ever be at his post, ever faithful to his trust.

Decision of character is that faculty which enables a person to persevere in any course which he has chosen, having adopted principles, he can, with its aid, carry them into practice. It is the helmsman that guides the ship.

This firmness of purpose, when it leads a man, after he has adopted certain principles or has decided upon a certain course of life, to reject any additional light to avoid all further investigation, is called obstinacy and is about as fatal as is a want of decision.

Decision of character enables its possessor to maintain a consistent course in the midst of opposition, and when surrounded by adverse circumstances.

It gives him influence and thus affords him the pleasure of carrying out his favorite plans and of seeing them received by others.

If he has chosen a life of virtue, decision of character enables him to triumph over temptations which surround him, and thus he is blessed with an oppressing conscience and also with an influence for good in society; and conversely, if he is a bad man his influence for evil may be in the same ratio.

Society is greatly benefitted by a man who firmly stands up for right, for he can be relied on in every emergency. In every question of interest to the community, his opinion is respected. His strict adherence to principle strengthens those who would otherwise be wavering and unstable.

As we are subject to the constant change of outward circumstances and inward experiences, decision of character is necessary.

We need every hour of our lives—the strength it imparts and without it nothing of importance can be accomplished.

A man destitute of this quality is al-

ways vacillating in business. He cannot be successful for as soon as he meets with difficulties in his particular occupation, he is ready to abandon it and engage in something else. His opinions are worth nothing for he believes one thing to-day and another to-morrow.

Many persons have commenced life with numerous plans for future usefulness, which if carried out would bless the world; with bright anticipations of success have they entered upon what they regarded as their life-work, but meeting with various discouragements and being devoid of a firmness of purpose they abandoned the enterprise and thus deprived the world of the benefits that would have accrued from a faithful discharge of duty and deprived themselves of the happiness resulting therefrom.

The student's success depends very much on this firmness of purpose; while prosecuting his studies many discouragements arise and he is often tempted to abandon his eager search for knowledge, but decision of character will empower him to wend his way, however toilsome it may be, up the "hill of science." It has enabled men to surmount great obstacles for the sake of an education; some of the best scholars have been those who were compelled to struggle alone in the midst of poverty and discouragements of various kinds.

Dr. Bowditch, for example, one of the most learned and famous scientific men our country has ever produced, when a boy, was poor and was obliged to labor daily for a livelihood, but he decided to obtain an education and that decision firmly adhered to gained for him a splendid success. The learned blacksmith is another example of what an ardent desire for knowledge aided by decision can accomplish.

To strengthen this faculty it is necessary to have a definite object in view. One should always consider well before deciding on any course and when the decision is made, he should bend all his mental powers in that direction, and should let nothing less than impossibility prevent his attaining the end in view, provided always that it be a good one, if not, he should never attempt its attainment. It is necessary to have decision upon things of minor importance and thus it will be easier to be decided on weightier matters. LEOLA.

A DESIRABLE SITUATION OFFERED.

An opportunity will be given to a worthy young lady, to secure an education at the Mt. Carroll Seminary, and pay her expenses by doing sewing, principally plain work, though it is desirable that she should have some knowledge of cutting and fitting plain dresses &c. A Wheeler & Wilson's Sewing Machine will be furnished for her use, hence desirable that she should be acquainted with the modus operandi of this machine.

The applicant must bear a recommendation of unexceptionable habits and character; None others need apply.

For particulars, address at Mt. Carroll, Carroll Co., Ills.

Mrs. F. A. W. SHIMER } Principals.
Miss. O. M. GREGORY }

A HOUSE-KEEPER WANTED.

At the Mt. Carroll Seminary. A lady thoroughly acquainted with all the minutiae of House keeping can obtain a situation by applying to the Principals.

A middle aged widow lady with a child to educate, is preferred. Steady employment, a pleasant home, good wages and prompt pay, will be insured to a worthy, industrious lady, well qualified for the position.

Strict integrity of character is an essential requisite to secure the situation.

F. A. W. SHIMER & GREGORY,
Mt. Carroll, Ill.

Advices from Nicaragua say Commodore Vanderbilt has secured a transit concession, paying \$100,000, and one dollar and twenty cents for each passenger.

One day last Fall a farmer in Illinois cradled three acres of wheat, and that night his wife, not to be outdone by him, cradled three babies.

THE POWER OF WATER.

For the Seminary Bell.

The "horse power" of a waterfall is found by multiplying the quantity of water (in pounds) which falls in a minute into the perpendicular height of the fall (in feet), and dividing the product by 33000. The value of a horse-power amounts to 33000 lbs. lifted one foot high in a minute; therefore the working horse-power value of a waterfall consists in the quantity of water which comes from the top to the foot of the fall in one minute. Thus:

"What is the horse-power of a fall of water 30 feet high, with one cubic foot flowing over it per second?"

$$\text{Ans. } \frac{60 \times 62.5 \times 30}{33000} = 3.40 \text{ horse-power.}$$

From this 25 per cent., at least, should be deducted for friction, leakage, &c., leaving 2.55 as the actual power that may be obtained by a wheel. There are 62.5 lbs. of water in a cubic foot; 60 feet fall in a minute. This quantity (in pounds) is multiplied into the perpendicular height, and divided by the standard of a horse-power.

But how can we find out the quantity of water which falls in a given time? It is impossible to measure it with a gallon or other standard vessels; is there not some simple method of finding this out? There is a simple method determined long ago by experiment to be sufficiently accurate for common purposes. For example: if we take a vertical trough, 30 feet high, and make a slit 24 inches long by 6 inches wide in its bottom, how much water will flow out of it in a second when it is kept constantly full? The following is the formula employed for ascertaining this: $q = \text{square root of } (30) \times 5.5 \text{ a divided by } 1728$.

That is, Q is the quantity which falls per second, it is equal to the square root of the height, multiplied by the coefficient 5.5, and the section, a , in inches (144) of the opening, divided by the number of inches in a cubic foot. This gives 2.5 cubic feet flowing through the opening per second. This being worked out by the first method above gives 6.67 nominal horse power. The following is an explanation of the result: If a ball of lead be dropped from a high tower, it falls 16 feet in one second, and has acquired a velocity of 32 feet, it falls the next second 48 feet, and thus, in two seconds, it has fallen $16 + 48 = 64$ feet; so that if the time be represented in seconds (thus, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) the spaces fallen through in each second will be as 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and the spaces fallen through in the whole time will be as 1, 4, 9, 16, 25. This proportion holds good for any space through which a body falls in a vacuum, and a close vertical water flume may be regarded as such for practical purposes. The velocities, therefore, are as the square roots of the heights or spaces through which a body falls. Therefore, as gravity produces the velocity of 2 in descending through a space of 1, the height (in feet) through which the body falls being multiplied by 64, will give the square of its velocity (in feet) per second. If the height fallen be 1 foot, the square root of 64 is 8, which is the velocity with which a heavy body falls through that space. The square root of 30 is 5.47 which is multiplied above by 5.5, instead of 8, because experimenters have determined that when water flows through rectangular notches, there is a retardation of its velocity amounting to 2.5 of 8. The foregoing is given as data for any person to calculate power of falls of water.—Scientific American.

In the first case mentioned above one cubic foot of water, is the quantity that flows over the top of the fall per second; hence an orifice at the top of the fall of one foot square would discharge one cubic foot of water in one second when the velocity of the water is one linear foot per second, but an orifice of the same size at the bottom of a flume which is kept constantly full will discharge two and one half times as much water in the same time, as we see in the second case above. An orifice that would discharge one cubic foot of water at the bottom of the trough must contain one square foot divided by 2.5 = 57.6 square inches, therefore (by extracting the square root of 57.6) an orifice 7.59 inches square at the bottom of the trough will discharge as much water as one 12 inches square at the top. The nominal horse-power in the last case should be 6.39, for we are directed to solve it as in the first method, which gives $2.5 \times 60 \times 62.5 \times 30 = 281250$, which being divided by 33000 = 8.52, deducting 25 per cent, we have $.52 - 2.13 = 6.39$ horse-power.

"There may be persons who have high falls on side hills, with a small supply of water led down by tubes. In such cases, small turbine wheels may be employed, at but a little cost, to do a great deal of work, especially to a farmer or any country mechanic. One may be made to work a trip-hammer to a blacksmith's shop, drive a planer or saw to a carpenter's, or grind the meal, churn the milk, thresh the wheat and cut the fire wood,

for a farmer." We have seen a small flutter-wheel, the cost of which was comparatively trifling, under a 14 feet fall of a small stream, doing a great deal of work.

The above method of computing the amount of water discharged by a fall will be accurate only when the water is at rest, or nearly so, at the top of the fall, for when a rapid current of water is discharged into the top of the flume, the velocity of the water, or the momentum produced must be added to the former estimate to give the full force of the stream; because the effect of the current falling into the top of the flume is equivalent to increasing its height.

$2.05 \times 60 \times 62.5 \times 20 = 153750$ which divided by 33000, and deducting 25 per cent = 3.5 horse power, which is the horse power to every square foot of orifice; for the number of square inches in the orifice enters into the calculation only once as a factor, therefore, the horse power increases as the size of the orifice increases.

The solution of this example might have been given thus; the square root of 30 multiplied by 30, is the square root of 20 multiplied by 20; as 6.39 (the horse power of a one foot orifice with a fall of 30 feet) is to the required horse power, the three first terms being given: to find the fourth, thus $5.47 \times 30 : 4.75 \times 20 :: 6.39 : 3.5$. We therefore have the following general and practical rule for determining the working horse power of any water-fall.

(Determining the previous numbers more accurately we have,—square root of 30 = 5.477226,

$$\text{sq. rt. of } 30 \times 30 = 164.3168,$$

$$\text{and the horse-power} = 6.418)$$

RULE.

Multiply the square root of the height of the fall by the height of the fall; multiply this product by 6.418, and divide by 164.3168, the quotient will be the horse-power for a discharging orifice of one square foot.

Multiply the last quotient by the number of square inches in the required orifice, and divide by 144 for the required horse-power.

EXAMPLE.
What is the horse-power of a water fall 25 feet high, which discharges through an orifice 6 feet long and 8 inches wide, at the foot of the fall.

$$\text{Ans. } -7.32 \text{ nearly.}$$

(To be Continued.)

MAN FADETH AS THE LEAF.

We are taught many divine lessons of the frailty of the life of man,—have many illustrations given us of its transiency, and our constant liberality to pass away from everything we esteem lovely and dear on earth; but there is perhaps no simile more appropriately made, or more fitting for us to consider than that "we all do fade as a leaf."

Behold the tree, when as its season of foliage advances, it puts forth its young and fragile leaf. See how tender and delicate it is; every breath of air, however gentle, causes it to quiver, and if the sun but glance upon it, how it droops and withers; but day by day being nourished by the tree, it grows stronger and stronger, until it becomes a perfectly developed leaf, and can endure the scorching rays of the sun without injury, though, if you will notice, you may observe, that it always quivers in the wind, for this at last will be its conquerer, and lay it low upon the ground. All through the glad summer it flourishes and is strong, sometimes playing with the zephyrs, and anon resting quietly, it gives shelter from the lowing kine at noon-day so the weary lamb at eve.

But as the Autumn season approaches, we look again upon the leaf, and behold another change, no longer strong and flexible adapting itself to every passing wind or circumstance, it gradually changes in color, becomes stiff and bent in form, and finally falls to the ground, where, whether it "rustles to the eddying winds or to the rabbits tread" it even teaches us how frail and changable it is, and how soon will always come its season of decay. Thus it is with man,—in his infancy he is fragile as the newborn leaf, and re-

quires constant shielding from exposure,—he must be tenderly guarded from the thousand ills incident to human life, and be nurtured with as much care as the gardner devotes upon some favorite exotic. But as the silver years roll on, and Time in his hurried flight is always leaving days for the improvement of those on earth, he loses the trembling weakness and timidity of childhood, and every passing hour adding to his store of strength and knowledge, we behold the man, noble in thought, resolute in action, firm in honest purpose and high enterprise, and yet, always trembling as the leaf under disease, and ready to fall if its finger do but touch him. For a time how lithe and strong he is. He rears no evil, and is content in his own power. Hope unfurls her snowy pinions over him, and in syren tone sings of the days of futurity, made golden only by the setting of the sun of life, and gorgeous by its declining rays. She whispers that the future will be the blissful present, crowned with newer pearls, and brighter gems; and while she sings, he dreams these visions, and then believes them true. He forgets that though the day to come may be bright, blissful even as he fancies them, they may not come to him; the leaf will soon be loosened from its parent stem,—its hold is growing weaker, and it may soon fall. Of this, many in the prime of manhood forget to think until the weight of years forces them to feel. Old age comes on apace, the stately form grows bent, the eye once bold and falchion-like is now becoming dim, the step but firm and elastic grows feeble, slow and tottering, and the palsied hand is always trembling now over the staff on which the old man leans so heavily. His head, too, is covered with the blossoms of the grave, and as death, the Autumn winds of life blows upon him, his form trembles for a moment at the touch, and as a leaf he falls and is forgotten. Such, Oh! man! is thy natural life. Even if thou art permitted to remain on earth until honored by the silver crown of years, yet thou are constantly fading and must fall even as the leaf. But contemplate for a moment how many fall before they reach maturity—how many are blighted in the very spring of their existence, and never become perfectly developed, and of still more, that putting forth their tender leaves too early, are totally ruined by some outward circumstances. And thus this also is in life, in every case we might trace out its parallel, from the cooing infant to the bold adventurous youth.

But as the fading of the leaf is without resistance, gradual and very gentle—only a passing away—so in this application, if the duties of life faithfully performed, if we meet every care and responsibility in the spirit of hope and prayer, we may feel in ourselves and rejoice that "we all fade as a leaf."

M. L.

From Missouri.

A bill excluding free negroes from the State of Missouri under penalty of becoming slaves passed the Senate yesterday. It had previously passed the House.

The same bill passed both Houses last session, but failed to receive the signature of the Governor.

J. H. MOORE, Druggist and Book
Selling Pole, Illinois.

THE SEMINARY BELL

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

Reduction to Clubs.

Single Copy, one year	\$1.00
Three Copies, " " and one copy free to Club Agent	2.50
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EXAMINATION.—The Annual examination of the Students of the Mt. Carroll Seminary will take place on the 11th and 12th day of April.—A general invitation is extended to the public.

LECTURE.—C. B. Smith Esq., will lecture before the students and friends of the Mt. Carroll Seminary, on Friday evening, March 30th. The public are invited to attend.

For want of space, we are unable to correct errors, which occurred in example 53, and the solutions of 29 and 31 of last number.

TO PUBLISHERS.—If our "Exchanges" will give us rates of clubbing with other papers, we will do what we can by clubbing with the Seminary Bell.

CLUBBING.

Any person sending us the subscription price of "The Prairie Farmer" or "Rural New Yorker" shall receive a copy of either the above named papers, together with a copy of "The Seminary Bell" one year. Thus two papers will be secured worth three dollars, for only two dollars.

REDUCTION TO CLUBS.

INDUCEMENTS TO SUBSCRIBE.

We offer the following premiums to students and others who will get up clubs for "The Seminary Bell":

Page's Theory and Practice of Teaching; value	\$1.25
Holbrook's Normal Method	1.25
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Gold Pencil, Gents Heavy	3.50
" " Locket for two Miniatures	3.50
Orders on Mt. Carroll Sem. payable in tuition	3.50
" " " " " " Piano Music	5.00
" " " " " " " "	10.00

We would call attention to the above inducements to subscribe.

The object of our paper is improvement as individuals, and as a school, and not pecuniary gain or emolument, hence we propose, as our subscription list increases, instead of making it a source of revenue, to divide any excess that may accrue among our subscribers. The reduction to clubs, as given above, is calculated to do this.

To those who have already subscribed, paying the full subscription price, (\$1.00 per annum) we would acknowledge our obligations. You came to our aid fearlessly and generously at the time we most needed it, and while our paper was but an experiment, you reposed confidence in us that we would accomplish that to which we aspired. Our acknowledgements are due then, not only for the pecuniary aid which you thus rendered, but for the encouragement your sympathy and confidence gave us, and we feel that you will sympathize and rejoice with us when we tell you that "The Seminary Bell" is no longer a mere experiment, but a "fixed fact"—one of the established institutions of the day, and that it is now placed upon a basis, financial, which forbids a suspicion or fear of failure or suspension.

As to its Literary resources, our readers can judge for themselves whether or not we have such at our command as shall secure a continuation of interest in the undertaking. We are but tyros as yet, but, with "Excelsior" for our motto, we trust that as we increase in years and experience we will be able to render "The Seminary Bell" a welcome visitor, not only to those who are bound to us by the bond of student brotherhood, but to every patron and friend of our cherished Institution—the Mt. Carroll Seminary.

AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, &C.

Our readers will please notice Prospectus of Agricultural and Horticultural Journals in another column.

Of all our exchanges and contributions there are none we prize more highly than this class of papers. We are pleased too, to note the growing interest manifested in them by the members of our reading room, where access may be had by every member of the Seminary to every "exchange," or contribution received.—Good seed is being sown, and we anticipate as fruit of it, that there will be a large accession to the list of reading ruralists and horticulturists in northern Illinois.—We believe there are "live" farmers as well as "live teachers," and as an educational journal is an essential requisite for the latter, so is an agricultural journal equally essential to the former. No truly intelligent farmer will do without one or more of these valuable auxiliaries. Not to the farmer alone are they valuable—every person who has the care of a piece of ground, if no more than a "little garden patch," may receive at least an hundred per cent for every dollar invested in Agricultural and Horticultural reading matter. Thus much for the pecuniary consideration. The literary merit of this class of publication will certainly compare favorably with any other, hence, every reader may be entertained, and at the same time profited intellectually, as well as pecuniarily. We give below a list of other friends of this class, which we esteem highly, and of which we will give particulars soon.

"The Horticulturist and Journal of Rural Art and Rural Taste," edited by Peter B. Mead, New York; C. M. Saxton, Barker & Co., 25, Park Row. Terms, \$2.00 per year. To say that this Journal was founded by the late A. J. Downing, and that it is so conducted as to sustain fully the position in which his indefatigable labors placed it, should be commendation sufficient to insure it a welcome to every rural home.

"Farmer's Advocate," a weekly family Journal, devoted to Western Agriculture, Horticulture, Mechanics, Education, Literature, Markets and News. J. C. Medill and J. Bonham, editors and publishers.—Terms, \$1.25 per year.

"American Agriculturist," (issued in both English and German,) "A THOROUGH GOING, RELIABLE and PRACTICAL Journal, devoted to the different departments of SOIL CULTURE, such as growing Field Crops, Orchard and Garden Fruits; Garden Vegetables and Flowers: Trees, Plants, and Flowers for the Lawn or Yard; in door and out door work around the dwelling; care of Domestic Animals &c., &c." Thirty-two quarto pages, monthly at \$1.00 per year. Editor and Proprietor is Orange Judd, No. 189, Water St., New York.

"The Scientific Artizan," Published weekly by the American Patent Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. Terms per year, \$1.00.—This is not strictly an Agricultural Journal, yet its "Field and Garden" contains much of interest to the farmer. "It is especially devoted to the interests of Inventors, Mechanics, Manufacturers, Artisans, Farmers, &c., and is in every respect a very valuable Journal for families and general readers."

"The Prairie Farmer," of which we told our readers last month, is rather a "pet with us. It is so well adapted to the wants of the western farmer, not one can afford to do without it.

"The Genesee Farmer," a monthly.—Price, only 50 cents per year. Joseph Harris Proprietor, Rochester, N. Y. This is a sterling Agricultural Journal, brim full of practical information on all subjects interesting to the farmer and fruit grower. Its able review of the markets is alone worth the price of the paper.

"The Cultivator," another valuable

monthly, at only 50 cents per year.—Why will farmers do without reading matter, when it can be had at so trifling a cost?

"The Rural New Yorker" is last, though by no means least, on our list.—"This is an Original, Weekly, Rural, Literary and Family Newspaper. It is designed to be unsurpassed in value, purity, usefulness and variety of contents, and unique and beautiful in appearance. Its conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the Rural an eminently reliable guide on all the important, practical, scientific and other subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interest it zealously advocates.—As a Family Journal it is eminently instructive and entertaining, being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the hearts and homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. "The Rural New Yorker" comes at \$2.00 per year, single copy. By clubbing with the Seminary Bell, a copy of both papers will be furnished one year for \$2.00.—Thus \$3.00 worth of reading matter may be had for \$2.00 by addressing the subscriptions to Financial Committee, Seminary Bell.

For the Seminary Bell.

To Publishers and Authors.

We are repeatedly placed under obligations to Publishers and Authors for new publications to examine, but till recently, have not been so situated as to acknowledge the favor as we could wish. We now have an organ, "The Seminary Bell," through which we can not only express our appreciation of favors received, but also give to others the benefit of our examination of different works. Of this we shall avail ourselves, giving such notices as we deem the work under consideration, to merit. In this, we shall act conscientiously, realizing as we do the responsibility of the position we occupy, not as publishers of a public journal, but as an institution. Knowing as we do that our decision regarding the merit of any work will have far more weight with a large and influential class of readers, Students and Teachers, who are, or have been connected with the Mt. Carroll Seminary, than will like decisions from almost any other source.

In conclusion we would say, it is our aim to use the best text books extant and recommended the best and most select works for Libraries (as students and teachers are often soliciting our advice in making their selections.) True we have our course of Study arranged and a fixed set of text books for the use of our school, yet we must keep pace with the "improvements of the day," hence we are ever open to conviction and whenever, upon our own investigation, we become convinced of the superior merit of any work, we are ready to give it the precedence in our recommendations and as a reference book at least in our library, till a change in class use may be consistently and judiciously made. Hence we solicit the continuation of favors from Authors and Publishers, assuring them that every work of true merit received by us will be so used as to result in a mutual benefit.

We will have only space in this number to give the names of a few of the works which should have received attention long ere this. In a future number we will notice them further, as their merit may deserve. We trust however that this will call the attention of teachers to these books, and thus atone, in some measure for our own neglect.

Literary Notices.

ROBINSON'S UNIVERSITY ASTRONOMY.—A Treatise on Astronomy, Descriptive; Theoretical and Physical; designed for Schools, Academies, and private Students. By H. N. Robinson. A. M.

Formerly, Prof. of Mathematics in the U. S. Navy. New York, Ivison & Phinny. Chicago, S. C. Griggs & Co.

THE PROGRESSIVE PRIMARY ARITHMETIC; PROGRESSIVE INTELLECTUAL ARITHMETIC AND PROGRESSIVE PRACTICAL ARITHMETIC.—Three valuable works of the Series by the same author and Publishers as the above Astronomy.

TOWER'S ELEMENTS OF GRAMMAR.—COMMON SCHOOL GRAMMAR.—GRAMMAR OF COMPOSITION.—A Series prepared by David B. Towers, A. M.—Published by Crosby Nichols & Co., Boston, Mass. For this series we are indebted to M. D. L. Hayes, the agent of the publishers, whose energetic and persevering labors bids fair to secure for the work a very general introduction into our Schools. We are also under obligation to the same gentleman for a beautiful Chart, Chirographic;—By Payson, Dutton, and Scribner.—Prepared for the use of Schools and writing classes, being sufficiently large, measuring 3 by 5 feet, to be available, to a large class at the same time.

PRINCIPLES OF CHEMISTRY;—By John A. Porter A. M., M. D. Professor of Agricultural and Organic Chemistry in Yale College. Published by Barnes & Co. New York. In the preparation of this text book, it has been the design of the author to disencumber the subject of much detail, which is only of interest to the professional chemist, and at the same time to bring the illustrations of the more important phenomena of the science within the reach of every school and every individual student.

NOBLE BUTLER'S EDITION OF GOODRICH'S READERS.—Published by Morton & Griswold, Louisville, Ky., to whom we are indebted for the entire Series. We wish we wish we had the space to devote to a notice commensurate with the merit with which we conceive them to possess. But the printer cries "Enough nearly" and we must forbear.

HAND BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD SCIENCE.—A popular account of heat, light, air, aliment, and cleansing, in their scientific principles and domestic applications, with numerous diagrams, &c., adapted for Academies, Seminaries and Schools, by Edward L. Youmans. Published by D. Appleton & Co. N. Y.

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UNION GLEE BOOK, consisting of Glee, Quartets and Part Songs, selected and arranged from the best European and American composers, by B. T. Barker.

For this work we are indebted to Horace Waters, New York. On examination, we were so well pleased as to order one and one-half dozen of them for one of our classes, by the way of trial.

NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.—Embracing the most recent discoveries in the various branches of Physics. Adapted to use with or without apparatus and accompanied with full descriptions of experiments, Practical Exercises, and numerous illustrations; by G. P. Quackenbos, A. M., Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York.

We would close with an appeal to School Directors to furnish a Library of text-books for the use of teachers employed as well as for reference by the pupils.—Every teacher, to enable him to be of the most service possible to his school, should have constant access to a variety of works by different Authors, and that he may keep pace with the improvements of the age, he should be furnished with the latest publications. In addition to the above named, we have a number later works on our table, which will receive attention in our next.

F. A. W. SHIMER, } Principals.
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Sales of Webster's Dictionaries.

From certain published statements of the leading book-sellers from every part of the country, it would seem that the sale of Webster's Dictionaries are enormous, exceeding many times the sales of all other dictionaries put together. We learn that there are five different editions of our great American lexicographer now published in England, besides several English Dictionaries which are confessedly based on Webster. A recent article in the London Critic admits that the orthography of Webster's Dictionary is all but universal in the United States.—Boston Daily Journal.

For the Seminary Bell.
THE PLANETS.

This is a very favorable time to observe some of the most important planets. Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn are all in the visible hemisphere at 7 o'clock in the evening, and Mars rises a little after midnight.

Mercury can be seen by the naked eye only when its greatest elongations occur in the months of March and April, or August and September, it is at present in its greatest eastern elongation, and can be seen for a few minutes after dark in the direction of sunset, it will remain stationary for a few days and then retrograde rapidly so that it will reach its greatest western elongation about the last of April. It is quite brilliant, exceeding the splendor of a fixed star of the first magnitude.

The present position of Mercury is in the constellation *Piscis*, in a right line with *Arietis* and *Sheratan*, and forms nearly an equilateral triangle with *Sheratan* and *Alpharatz*.

Mercury revolves on its axis from west to east in 24 hours 5 min. and 28 sec., and the length of its year is about equal to 88 of our days; its mean distance from the sun is 37 millions of miles, consequently it receives seven times as much light and heat from the sun as the earth does; yet the same Divine Wisdom that created it can also harmonize the physical constitution of the inhabitants that he has placed there with its peculiar climate.

The diameter of Mercury is only about 2984 miles, yet it is the most dense of all the planets. Twenty millions of such globes would not equal the volume of the Sun, and it is about 18½ times smaller than the earth.

Mercury is one of the *Inferior* planets; consequently it often passes over the Sun's disc, this passage over the face of the Sun is denominated a *Transit*. The observations of these transits have afforded Astronomers very important data in determining the Sun's horizontal parallel; the next transit of Mercury will occur on the 11th of Nov., 1861.

M. Shroter who discovered the rotation of Mercury on its axis, describes spots on its surface and even very high mountains, one of which, in the Southern hemisphere is 10½ miles high.

Astronomical students should not fail to improve the present opportunity to view this planet, as one so favorable seldom occurs for viewing it with the naked eye.

Venus, the brightest of all the stellar hosts, for several months has been the evening star, her superior splendor is such that she is known and observed by all; her present position is north of the ecliptic forming an obtuse angled triangle with *Arietis* and *Sheratan*. She is just entering the breast of *Arietis* and will not arrive at her greatest eastern elongation until about the 8th of May.

She continues alternately morning and evening star. Each period being 295 days.

Jupiter, whose apparent magnitude is next to that of Venus, is the largest of all the planets belonging to the Solar System, being about thirteen hundred times larger than the Earth. One of his years is equal to twelve of ours, yet the days and nights are each only about 5 hours long.

The present position of Jupiter is about one and a half degrees N. W. of the star *Wasat*, and nearly in a right line with and midway between *Polux* and *Alhena* in the constellation *Gemini*. If the position of Jupiter is once learned it is easy to follow him in his course through the Constellations of the Zodiac he passes just over one sign in a year.

Last Tuesday evening about 7 o'clock, while I was noting Jupiter's position among the stars, a bright meteor or shooting star made its appearance near *Procyon* and directed its course in a right

line directly over Jupiter's disc, and disappeared in the constellation *Telescopium Herschellii*.

SATURN:—this mild and beautiful planet, with its eight moons and wonderful rings, is just entering the constellation *Leo*, it forms almost a right angled triangle with *Regulus* and *Eta Leonis* in the handle of the Sickles, the right angle being at *Eta*. The triangle is similar to that formed by *Denebola*, *Theta* and *Leonis*, the homologous sides being parallel to each other.

On account of the slow motion of Saturn, the pupil, who has once found its position cannot fail to trace its course among the stars during the entire period of his life, because it passes at a mean rate over a single sign or constellation in 2½ years, one of its years being equal to 30 of ours.

MARS, the first of the exterior planets, may be seen in the morning, in the eastern part of the constellation *Scorpio* about one degree south of the Ecliptic and six degrees west of the *Solstitial Colure* (as near as may be determined by the naked eye, without the aid of instruments) The apparent magnitude and color of Mars very much resembles the bright star *Antares vel cor Scorpii* which is but a few degrees west of it at the present time, its progress through the Zodiac is but little more than half as great as that of the Earth.

While observing Mars this morning I noticed that the moon which was immediately east of it was exactly in the bowl of the "Milk Dipper."

Our minds are filled with majestic wonder at beholding, and contemplating such mighty balls, moving so rapidly, so uniformly, and with such silent harmony in their endless rounds of perpetual motion,—no clashing,—no confusion,—no wearying;—as they have been rolling onward for thousands, yea, millions of years, so they may continue to move for ages yet to come, thus unmistakably demonstrating, that none other than INFINITE Wisdom and ALMIGHTY Power could have designed and executed such perfect and magnificent machinery.

March 15th, 1860.

HINTS.—The whitewashing of cattle and horse stalls, as well as the inside of hog cotes and henneries, not only render them more healthy, but prevents the animals and fowls from being infested with troublesome and filthy vermin. Keep your stables and barns well littered. Leaves from the woods are excellent, and absorb the liquid manure well; besides of themselves they make good manure. Nothing that will make good manure should be wasted, but carefully saved. Never undertake to fatten an animal until you have first made it comfortable in bed and board.

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Satin Vests,	1	14	7	19
Linen Vests,		49	5	14
Cloth Pants,		51	5	10
Summer Pants,		38	2	50
Silk Dress,	1	13	10	22
Merino Dress,	1	4	8	27
Calico Dress,		57	6	37
Chemise,	1	1	10	31
Moreen Skirt,		35	7	28
Muslin Skirt,		30	6	1
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